GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:102
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2017
Swadesh Darshan and PRASAD Schemes
Noor Smt. Mausam

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched Swadesh Darshan and PRASAD Schemes;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether tourist circuits are being developed on priority basis under these Schemes; and
(d) if so, the details of tourist circuits being developed in the country under these Schemes, State-wise including West Bengal?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*102 ANSWERED ON 24.07.2017 REGARDING SWADESH DARSHAN AND PRASAD SCHEMES.

(a) and (b): For development of tourism infrastructure in the country, the Ministry of Tourism has launched two schemes in 2014-15 i.e. Swadesh Darshan - Integrated Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits and PRASAD- Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive.
Under Swadesh Darshan Scheme, thirteen thematic circuits have been identified for development namely; North-East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit and Heritage Circuit. As on 30.06.2017, the Ministry has sanctioned 63 projects for Rs. 5309.95 crore under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme.
Under PRASAD Scheme, 25 religious sites/cities have been identified for development in the country namely Amaravati (Andhra Pradesh), Amritsar (Punjab), Ajmer (Rajasthan), Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh), Badrinath (Uttarakhand), Belur (West Bengal), Dwarka (Gujarat), Deoghar (Jharkhand), Gaya (Bihar) , Guruvayoor (Kerala), Hazratbal (Jammu & Kashmir), Kamakhya (Assam), Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu), Katra (Jammu & Kashmir), Kedarnath (Uttarakhand), Mathura (Uttar Pradesh), Omkareshwar (Madhya Pradesh), Patna (Bihar), Puri (Odisha), Somnath (Gujarat), Srisailam (Andhra Pradesh), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), Trimbakeshwar (Maharashtra), Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and Vellankani (Tamil Nadu). The Ministry has sanctioned 19 projects as on 30.06.2017 for Rs. 529.12 crore under the scheme.
(c): Under Swadesh Darshan scheme the focus is on development of theme based tourist circuits in the country in a planned and prioritized manner on the principles of high tourist value, competitiveness, sustainability, enriching tourist experience and to enhance employment opportunities.
(d): The State/UT-wise details of projects sanctioned for development in the country including West Bengal under Swadesh Darshan and PRASAD Schemes are annexed.
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